

Comparisons of Job Characteristics

Focus Occupation: [Physical Therapist Assistants \(31-2021\)](#)

Associated Occupation: [Occupational Therapists \(29-1122\)](#)

[Compare Knowledge](#)

[Compare Skills](#)

[Compare Abilities](#)

[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)

[Compare Tools and Technologies](#)

<<	Focus occupation element is much lower
<	Focus occupation element is lower
0	Focus occupation element is at a similar level
>	Focus occupation element is at a higher level
>>	Focus occupation element is at a much higher level

Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 89

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)

Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapists (29-1122)

Associated Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Education and Training	9.2	17.7	14.7	<	Expanded education and/or training may be required
Psychology	6.4	17.7	14.6	<	Expanded education and/or training may be required
Therapy and Counseling	3.8	16.4	15.0	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Sociology and Anthropology	4.1	12.1	6.2	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Medicine and Dentistry	3.7	9.3	12.5	>>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Skills

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 93

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)

Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapists (29-1122)

Associated Occupation's Key Skills Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Social Perceptiveness	9.1	12.0	11.8	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Service Orientation	7.9	11.7	10.8	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Instructing	7.8	11.1	9.6	<	A higher skill level may be required
Learning Strategies	7.2	10.5	8.8	<	A higher skill level may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Abilities

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 93

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)

Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapists (29-1122)

Associated Occupation's Key Abilities Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Problem Sensitivity	11.1	14.0	11.1	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Written Expression	9.8	12.8	10.0	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Information Ordering	9.9	11.3	9.8	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Originality	7.6	10.6	8.5	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Fluency of Ideas	7.6	9.9	8.4	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Time Sharing	6.6	7.8	7.3	0	Current ability level may be sufficient

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Activities that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 74

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)

Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapists (29-1122)

Work Activities	Exclusivity of Activity
Evaluate patient response to therapy	78
Observe patient condition	48
Plan therapy treatment program	77
Position patient for therapy	70
Use knowledge of medical terminology	40
Work with persons with mental disabilities or illnesses	62

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily perform all of the listed activities. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the activity is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations engage in that activity.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 73

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)

Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapists (29-1122)

Tools and Technologies	Exclusivity
Ambulation and transfer and positioning aids for the physically challenged	27
Blood pressure units and related products	11

Business function specific software	1
Cameras	2
Casting and splinting supplies	25
Computer game or entertainment software	33
Computers	1
Content authoring and editing software	1
Data management and query software	1
Finance accounting and enterprise resource planning ERP software	2
Gait training products	43
Industry specific software	1
Information exchange software	1
Lamps	19
Medical exam size measuring devices	24
Orthopedic softgoods for lower extremity	33
Patient beds and accessories	30
Patient lifts	35
Patient transport products	18
Rehabilitation exercise devices and equipment	24
Stethoscopes and related products	14
Vascular and compression therapy equipment and supplies	33

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily use all of the listed tools and technologies. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the tool or technology is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations use that tool or technology.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.